Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 01680 101535Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /044 W

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R 101411Z APR 78 FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7610 AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA AMEMBASSY MANAGUA AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SHUM, PINT, ES, PGOV

USCINCSO

SUBJECT: TEN CATHOLIC PRIESTS SUSPENDED FROM DUTIES BY BISHOP OF SAN VICEOTE

1. MONSENOR PEDRO ARNALDO APARICIO, BISHOP OF SAN VICENTE,
ANNOUNCED SUSPENSION OF TEN CATHOLIC PRIESTS FROM HIS DIOCESE
WHO HAD SIGNED (TOGETHER WITH TWENTY PRIESTS FROM OTHER DIOCESES)
LETTER DENOUNCING PAPAL NUNCIO IN EL SALVADOR, MONSENOR CERADA
(SEE SAN SALVADOR A-36). EFFECT OF SUSPENSION IS TO DENY
10 PRIESTS RIGHT TO OFFER SACRAMENTS AND TO REMOVE THEM FROM
THEIR INDIVIDUAL PARISHES. SUSPENSION EFFECTIVE AS OF APRIL 1
WITH NO DATE ANNOUNCED FOR REMOVING SUSPENSION. VACANT PARISHES WILL
BE COVERED BY PRIESTS FROM NEARBY AREAS. BISHOP APARICIO IN
BRIEF STATEMENT SAID THAT TEN SUSPENDED PRIESTS "HAD NO BASIS FOR
SIGNING THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST MONSENOR GERADA."

2. COMMENT. STRONG ACTION BY MONSENOR APARICIO MAY HAVE FURTHER REPERCUSSIONS IN RURAL AREAS, INCREASING ALREADY HIGH TENSIONS. AIRGRAM FOLLOWS.

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Message Attributes

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Subject: TEN CATHOLIC PRIESTS SUSPENDED FROM DUTIES BY BISHOP OF SAN VICEOTE

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PGOV, ES To: STATE **GUATEMALA**

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